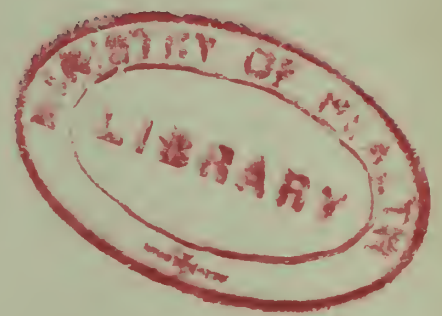


BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the Borough

For the Year ended 31st December, 1938

G. B. MURRAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer

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BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL

Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee, 1938-39.

Chairman - Councillor J. B. Graham, J.P.
Deputy Chairman - Councillor C. Chambers
His Worship the Mayor (Alderman R. H. Carter, J.P.)
Alderman J. Vasey, J.P.
Councillors J. Beattie
T. F. Carter
G. Davison
E. S. Gardner
F. Harrison
F. Jacques
J. Stevenson

Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, 1938-39

Chairman - Councillor J. B. Graham, J.P.
Deputy Chairman - Councillor C. Chambers
His Worship the Mayor (Alderman R. H. Carter, J.P.)
Alderman J. Vasey, J.P.
Councillors J. Beattie
T. F. Carter
G. Davison
E. S. Gardner
F. Harrison
F. Jacques
J. Stevenson
Mrs. E. Emerson Mrs. F. Harrison

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

FREDERIC STREET,

HARTLEPOOL.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing
Committee and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration, the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Hartlepool for the year 1938.

The statistics for the year under review show that there has been an increase in the Death Rate which is 15·6 as compared with 14·14 the previous year ; an increase in the Birth Rate which is still 4·9 per 1000 above that for England and Wales, and a decrease in the Infant Mortality Rate which is 55·2 as compared with 67·4.

It is gratifying to note a continued decline in the number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year, one death occurring in a child who had not been immunised. There was an increase of two in the number of tuberculous cases notified during the year and an increase of five in the deaths from this disease.

Steady progress was made under the slum clearance programme and a further 151 houses have been condemned as unfit for human habitation. It is very gratifying to be able to state that persons re-housed in the West View housing estate have continued to show an improvement in their general well being, especially noticeable amongst the children.

As from March, after improvements and extensions had been carried out, all the Health Services of the town have been centralised in one building, which, as will be readily appreciated, tends to greater efficiency in the operation of the Health Service.

The purchase of a " Sunlight " lamp enabled Ultra-Violet light treatment to be given to debilitated and anæmic babies and toddlers and has proved to be of great benefit to them.

Nothing occurred during the year to call for special comment and the sanitary conditions of the town were well maintained.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. B. MURRAY.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and
Medical Officer, Infant Welfare Centre :

GEORGE B. MURRAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector and Inspector under the
Food and Drugs Act :

G. A. WARD, M.S.I.A.

Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board.
Certificate of R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

J. C. LIGHTFOOT, M.S.I.A. (Resigned 19/11/38)

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors :

W. L. MERCER.

WM. GRIEVE (Commenced November).

Public Analyst (part time) :

CYRIL J. H. STOCK, B.Sc., F.I.C.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

MISS M. K. BRENNAN, S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (R.S.I.)

MISS F. MITCHELL, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS M. A. FIELDS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (R.S.I.)

Clerk : MISS K. CROSS.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Area (Acres)	1841
Population (Census 1931)	20,545
„ (estimated mid-year 1938)	18,120
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) ...	4,394
Rateable Value	£66,806
Sum represented by a 1d. rate ...	£246 3s. 2d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year.

	Males	Females	Total
1 Live Births—Legitimate ...	180	173	353
Illegitimate ...	6	3	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	186	176	362

Birth Rate—20·0

2 Still Births—Legitimate ...	10	5	15
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	10	5	15

Rate per 1,000 total births—39·0

3 Deaths	141	105	246
Crude Death Rate—13·6			
Adjusted „ 15·6			

4 Number of women dying in, or in
consequence of childbirth :

from Sepsis ...	0
„ other causes ...	1

Rate per 1,000 total births—2·65**Number of deaths of Infants under 1 year—20**

5 Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age
per 1,000 live births—55·2

6 Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	...	1
„ „ Whooping Cough ...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	...	1
„ „ Influenza ..	...	3
„ „ Diphtheria ...	...	1
„ „ Cancer ...	...	36

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY in the Year 1938.

England and Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								RATE PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS	
	Live Births	Still-Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (Under 2 yrs)	Total deaths under 1 year
England and Wales ..	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	5.5	53
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	15.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	—	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	7.8	57
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931).	15.4	0.60	11.0	—	—	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	3.6	51
London ..	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	—	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	13.1	57
Hartlepool ..	20.0	*.82	15.6	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.16	2.76	55.2

*The rate given (.82) is for 15 still births, none being ex-borough.

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows:				Puerperal Sepsis	Others	Total
{ per 1,000 Live Births ..				0.89	2.19	3.08
				0.86	2.11	2.97
{ " " " " " "				—	2.76	2.76
				—	2.65	2.65
" " " " Hartlepool						

POPULATION.

The population, as estimated by the Registrar General at mid-year, 1938, is given as 18,120, which is 60 less than the estimated population for 1937, and 2425 less than the census population of 1931. The following table shows the population of the Borough since 1923.

		Census		Registrar General's Estimate
1923	...	—	...	21,570
1924	...	—	...	21,810
1925	...	—	...	21,940
1926	...	—	...	21,640
1927	...	—	...	21,520
1928	...	—	...	20,920
1929	...	—	...	20,690
1930	...	—	...	20,690
1931	...	20,545	...	20,350
1932	...	—	...	20,150
1933	...	—	...	19,790
1934	...	—	...	19,410
1935	...	—	...	18,930
1936	...	—	...	18,767
1937	...	—	...	18,180
1938	...	—	...	18,120

COMPARATIVE TABLE of VITAL STATISTICS, 1926-1938.

	Estimated Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality
1926	21,640	24·6	13·6	104·8
1927	21,520	22·6	15·9	121·7
1928	21,920	24·9	13·5	90·2
1929	20,690	23·6	15·8	128·5
1930	20,690	26·1	13·3	87·0
1931	20,380	22·2	16·4	110·1
1932	20,150	22·8	13·0	113·6
1933	19,790	20·8	15·0	93·6
1934	19,410	18·9	14·9	57·2
1935	18,930	18·8	16·3	86·8
1936	18,767	21·2	15·41	60·4
1937	18,180	19·5	14·14	67·4
1938	18,120	20·0	15·6	55·2

BIRTHS.

During the year the number of live births registered was 362, comprising 186 males and 176 females, and of this number 6 males and 3 females were illegitimate. The birth rate shows an increase, the figure being 20·0 per 1000 of the estimated population as compared with a rate of 19·5 in 1937.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths of residents belonging to the Borough, after making allowances for inward and outward transfers was 246, comprising 141 males and 105 females, which gives a crude death rate of 13·6 and an adjusted death rate of 15·6.

The chief causes of death during the year were Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels 72, Cancer 36, all forms of Tuberculosis 23, and Pneumonia 21.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age was 20, as compared with 24 in 1937.

Causes of Death during the year 1938.

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes ...	141	105
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
Measles ...	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	1
Diphtheria ...	—	1
Influenza ...	3	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	8	11
Other Tuberculous Disease ...	4	—
Syphilis ...	—	—
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ...	2	—
Cancer, malignant disease ...	19	17
Diabetes ...	1	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c. ...	10	4
Heart Disease ...	41	31
Aneurysm ...	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	9	4
Bronchitis ...	6	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	13	8
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	5	2
Peptic Ulcer ...	—	—
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	1	—
Appendicitis ...	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	—	—
Other Diseases of Liver, &c. ...	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ...	9	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	2	1
Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes ...	—	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ...	2	9
Senility ...	1	1
Suicide ...	—	—
Other Violence ...	1	2
Other Defined Diseases ...	3	4
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	—	—

GENERAL PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

1 PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

At the beginning of the Report a list is given showing all the officers connected with the Health Services in the Borough.

2 SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations in connection with infectious disease are carried out at the College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by arrangement with the Durham County Hospital.

Water and other foodstuffs are sent to the County Analyst, Darlington, for analysis.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Cases—Infectious cases are removed by motor ambulance belonging to West Hartlepool Isolation Hospital.

For General Cases—Patients or their friends make their own arrangements for removal to hospital.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

i. General—This is carried out by the Local District Nursing Association for the Borough.

ii. Infectious Diseases—Cases of Infectious Diseases remaining at home are visited to see whether proper treatment and isolation is being carried out. Cases of ophthalmia neonatorum are similarly visited.

iii. Tuberculosis—The Health Visitors visit all cases of tuberculosis in the Borough under the County Council Scheme and, as the Medical Officer is also Tuberculosis Medical Officer for the district, the closest co-operation exists.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Situation	Nature of accommodation	By whom provided	Sessions
<i>Frederic Street Clinic</i>		Local Authority	
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	3 rooms	„	1 weekly
Ante Natal Clinic	3 rooms	„	1 weekly
School Clinics, Minor Ailments	3 rooms	„	5 weekly
Ophthalmic Clinic	2 rooms	„	1 weekly
Dental Clinic	2 rooms	„	4 weekly
Sunlight Clinic	2 rooms	„	1 weekly
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	3 rooms	„	1 monthly
<i>Mill House, West Hartlepool</i>		Durham County Council	1 weekly Tuesday 9-30—1 p.m.
Tuberculosis Dispensary	3 rooms	„	
Venereal Diseases	3 rooms	„	3 weekly

Since March, 1938, after extensive alterations and improvements to the existing Clinic in Frederic Street, the Child Welfare, Ante-Natal, School Medical, Dental, Ophthalmic, and Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics, together with the Offices, are now centralised in this building.

(e) HOSPITALS.

Under an Agreement between Hartlepool Hospital and the Education Authority, children requiring operative treatment for tonsils and adenoids are admitted to the Hospital.

Infectious Disease. Cases are admitted solely to West Hartlepool Isolation Hospital.

3. MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Maternity cases are admitted to Grantully Maternity Home which is under the control of the County Borough of West Hartlepool. Assistance is given towards the maintenance of cases by the Local Authority.

Cases requiring hospital treatment are also admitted through the Public Assistance Committee to Howbeck Hospital which is controlled by the West Hartlepool Council.

Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever cases are admitted to Howbeck Hospital and also to West Hartlepool Isolation Hospital.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC. An Ante-Natal Clinic is held once weekly, at the Frederic Street Clinic.

Mothers can obtain advice and are examined regarding their pregnancy. A Post Natal examination is also carried out, but it has been found difficult still to persuade mothers to return to the Clinic after their confinement.

During the year, 63 Nursing Mothers in poor financial circumstances, who required extra nourishment, were supplied free of cost with dried milk. This scheme has been in operation since August, 1937.

202 women attended during the year for Ante-Natal examination and 82 for Post Natal examination.

The Joint Council of Midwifery (National Birthday Trust Fund) has kindly supplied free dried milk and marmite to expectant and nursing mothers. Particulars are given below.

PARTICULARS OF CASES RECEIVING SPECIAL N.B.T.F. NUTRITION.

From 1st January to 31st December, 1938.

Total No. of Mothers receiv- ing Food	MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY.					INFANT MORTALITY.		
	No. of cases who de- veloped Sepsis	No of Deaths from Sepsis	No. from Abortion (if known)	No. from other causes	No. from Assoc- iated causes	No. of Still Births	No. of Neo- Natal Deaths	No. of Deaths under 12 months
162	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—

PARTICULARS OF CASES *NOT* RECEIVING SPECIAL
N.B.T.F. NUTRITION.

Total No. of Mothers <i>not</i> receiv- ing Food	MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY.					INFANT MORTALITY.		
	No. of cases who de- veloped Sepsis	No. of Deaths from Sepsis	No. from Abortion (if known)	No. from other causes	No. from Assoc- iated causes	No. of Still Births	No. of Neo Natal Deaths	No. of Deaths under 12 months
17	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

Arrangements exist with the local Nursing Association for the nursing of cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia. All maternal deaths are investigated by your Medical Officer.

Three Health Visitors are employed by the Council and divide their time between the Child Welfare, School Medical and Tuberculosis Work. As the Local Authority discharges the functions under Part I of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, the Health Visitors act as Infant Protection Visitors. Figures with regard to the work of Health Visiting will be found under the section dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Midwives Act of 1936 was put into operation on the 1st November, 1937. Four midwives are employed by Durham County Council who are the supervisory authority. These midwives attend with their patients at the ante-natal clinic.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.—All orthopædic cases are referred by arrangement to the Hartlepool Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water. The Borough is supplied with water by the Hartlepool Gas and Water Company, and the supply, though hard, is abundant and of good quality.

The following is the report of the Public Analyst on a sample of water sent for analysis :—

County Analyst's Office,
Darlington,
23rd December, 1938.

I hereby certify that I have analysed the undermentioned sample of water marked "from town's supply" which I received from Mr. G. A. Ward, Sanitary Inspector, Hartlepool, on the 14th day of December, 1938, and that I find as follows:—

			<u>Parts per 100,000</u>
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	11.5800
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	.0839
Ammonia	...	...	.0052
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	...	.0017
Oxygen Absorption	...	...	.0176
Injurious Metals	...	...	None
Total Solid Matter dried at 100° C.	...	...	86.0000
Temporary Hardness	..		22.6 degrees
Permanent Hardness	...		19.4 "
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale	...	...	3
Appearance of sample in 2 foot tube	...		not quite clear
Odour when heated to 50° C	...	...	none

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION.

Satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of Colonies on Nutrient Agar at 37° C after 72 hours	1 in 2 ml.
Number of Colonies on Nutrient Agar after 72 hours at 20/22° C	3 in 2 ml.
Presumptive B.Coli test at 37° C after 72 hours	Positive in 100 ml.
Clostridium Welchii test at 45° C	Negative

OBSERVATIONS.

This sample affords no evidence of contamination by sewage or other impure drainage and it is of good and wholesome quality for human consumption.

(Signed) C. J. H. STOCK,
Borough Analyst.

Drainage and Sewerage

During the year 400 yards of new sewer were laid at the West View Housing Estate. The sewers discharge into the sea through outfall sewers extending to low water mark. It is necessary to flush periodically the sewers in the low lying parts of the Borough since these have not sufficient fall to be self-cleansing, and consequently, at certain points considerable accumulation of sewerage occurs which renders flushing of the sewer necessary.

Rivers and Streams

There is no contamination of water courses in the Borough.

Closet Accommodation

With the exception of four outlying houses, the whole of the Borough has a water carriage system.

Public Cleansing

The collection and disposal of refuse is under the control of the Borough Surveyor. All the houses have covered bins and the ultimate disposal of the refuse is by tipping.

Sanitary Inspection of Area

See under the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Shops

No special action was taken under the Shops' Act, 1934, during the year.

Smoke Abatement

No action was found necessary.

Swimming Baths and Pool

One public open-air sea water swimming pool. The water was in a satisfactory condition.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

No. of Council houses found to be infested	2
No. of Council houses disinfested ...	2
No. of other houses found to be infested ...	17
No. of other houses disinfested ...	17

An insecticidal spray is used in the disinfestation of infested houses.

The furniture and effects of tenants to be re-housed in any Council house are sprayed on the day before removal, and any furniture or bedding badly infested is destroyed by burning. The bedding and any soft furnishings, as necessary, are treated in the steam disinfecter on the day of removal and delivered after disinfection at the new house.

All the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Routine inspections are made of Council Houses that become vacant and so far no infestation of Council Houses, vacated by tenants from slum clearance areas has occurred.

Schools

The sanitary conditions and water supply of the schools is on the whole satisfactory.

HOUSING

Total number of new houses erected in the town during 1938 as compared with 1937 is as follows :—

	1937	1938
1. New houses erected by Local Authority	82	27
2. New houses erected by Private Enterprise	2	206

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Clearance Areas

Under the above Act, 151 houses were represented during the year, which compares with 98 houses represented during the previous year. One Ministry of Health Enquiry was held in respect of 4 areas. During the year 318 families were re-housed and in each case disinfestation of the furniture and effects of the tenants prior to removal was carried out by the Council. This work was supervised by the Sanitary Inspector.

Routine inspections are carried out, by the Sanitary Inspector, of the houses in which tenants from Clearance areas have been re-housed.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	..	..	...	495
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...				1188
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932			...	154

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	337
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... *152
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... 255
* Scheduled under the Housing Act, 1936.	
2. <i>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notice :—</i>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	... 150
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—</i>	
A—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... 22
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	... 12
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
B—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... 7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	... 2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
C—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... —
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... 4
D—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... 1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... —

4. *Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding : —*

(a) (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	459
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	... 459
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	... 2839
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... 2
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... 41
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	... 253
(d)	Particulars of any such cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding (abated after informal action had been taken)	... 2
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	... —

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**a. Milk Supply.**

There are five farms situated within the Borough and these are visited regularly. It is to be regretted that none of these farms are producing designated milks.

Most of the milk consumed in the Borough comes from the surrounding County district.

b. Meat and Other Foods.

Regular inspection of the slaughterhouses was made, and as far as possible an inspection was made of all animals slaughtered. It was not found necessary to take any action as all meat condemned was voluntarily surrendered. Further details will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud'g cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ..	124	102	8	Not known	486
Number inspected	105	92	8	N.K.	438
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	6	3	—	4	8
% of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	5.71	3.26	—	—	1.82
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	10	35	—	—	14
% of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	9.52	38.04	—	—	3.19

c. Adulteration.

The summary of the examination of foodstuffs, including milk, made during the year, will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

d. Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Laboratories at which such examinations were carried out are at the College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and by Cyril J. H. Stock, Public Analyst.

Nature of the work.

Bacteriological examinations of milk are performed at the College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of water and foods are performed by Cyril J. H. Stock, Public Analyst, 24 Victoria Road, Darlington.

e. Nutrition.

No special work has been done in connection with this subject.

f. Shell Fish (Molluscan).

No shell fish beds are in this area.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table gives the number of notifications and removals to Hospital of cases of Infectious Disease, and also the number of deaths.

DISEASE			Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	No. of Deaths
Smallpox	...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	12	7	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	21	5	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	16	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	4	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	...	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis		...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	4	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	1	1	—
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	1	—	—

AGE GROUPS.

[illegible]

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 21 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year and 5 of these were admitted to Hospital, only those cases, where satisfactory isolation could be maintained, remaining at home. All the cases were mild.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were only 12 cases of Diphtheria notified and 1 death from these cases occurred during the year. Diphtheria antitoxin is provided free of charge by the Authority and is always available. 7 cases were admitted to Hospital.

There was a decrease of 5 in the number of Diphtheria cases notified during the year.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.—It has been found difficult to persuade parents to have their younger children immunised, but the number of older children protected was quite satisfactory. 147 school children entrants were immunised and 67 children of pre-school age. The total number of children immunised is now 3161.

All infectious diseases are now sent to West Hartlepool Isolation Hospital.

MEASLES.

1 death occurred from Measles as compared with no deaths last year.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There was 1 death from this disease, the child being under 1 year of age.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1935 for prevention of blindness.

TUBERCULOSIS.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1935.

By these Regulations the Local Authority can, on the report in writing of their Medical Officer of Health, by notice in writing, require any person suffering from Tuberculosis of the respiratory

tract, and in an infectious state, who is employed in connection with a dairy or the handling of milk or vessels containing milk, to discontinue his employment.

No action was required to be taken under these Regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 172.

Section 172 of the above Act deals with the power of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to make an order, on the application of the Local Authority, for the removal to and detention in a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

No action was taken during the year under these regulations.

The following table shows the new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis for the Borough of Hartlepool during 1938.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				TOTAL DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „	2	—	2	2	—	1	1	—
15—25 „	1	5	—	2	5	3	—	—
25—35 „	2	8	1	—	1	6	1	—
35—45 „	3	1	—	—	1	1	2	—
45—55 „	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 „	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	12	14	3	4	8	11	4	—

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932
Total new cases	33	31	29	26	33	36	36
Total deaths	23	18	17	20	36	30	33

Thirty-three new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, which is an increase of 2 as compared with 1937. The total deaths were 23 which is an increase of 5 over the number for 1937, the increase being in Pulmonary deaths.

Six of these cases were subsequently de-notified as there were found later to be non-tuberculous, and therefore the number of actual cases of Tuberculosis occurring during the year was 27.

Provision for the treatment of cases is made by the Durham County Council and 13 cases received institutional treatment. As in past years, necessitous cases received help in the provision of clothing and extra nourishment through the Tuberculosis Care Committee. 28 persons received assistance in this way during the year.

Maternal Mortality.

The following is the rate calculated per thousand births since 1933 :—

1933	...	2·3
1934	...	—
1935	...	8·4
1936	...	2·4
1937	...	0·0
1938	...	2·65

In 1938 there were no deaths from puerperal sepsis, but there was one from other causes.

Statistical Returns.

Number of Legitimate Births	...	...	...	353
„ „ Illegitimate „	...	...	...	9
„ „ Still „	...	...	...	15
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	20·0

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—

Legitimate	...	...	20
Illegitimate	...	...	—
			<hr/>
			20

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate	...	...	55·2
Illegitimate	...	...	—

Maternal Mortality :—

(a) From Sepsis	...	...	—
(b) From other causes	...	...	1
Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	2·65

The following table gives the infantile mortality rate for Hartlepool and England and Wales respectively since 1926.

Infantile Mortality Rates.

Years	Hartlepool	England and Wales
1926	104.8	70
1927	121.7	69
1928	90.2	65
1929	128.5	74
1930	87.0	60
1931	110.1	66
1932	113.6	65
1933	93.6	64
1934	67.2	59
1935	86.8	57
1936	60.4	59
1937	67.4	58
1938	55.2	63

Child Welfare Centre.

The work of the Child Welfare Centre has progressed most satisfactorily during the year, the total number of attendances being 5299. The figure is slightly more than last year; the average number of children attending per session was 106 as compared with 95 the previous year.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD. Since August, 1936, $\frac{1}{3}$ of a pint of liquid milk has been supplied daily to malnourished children of pre-school age whose parents are in poor financial circumstances. 59 such children received milk, during 1938.

The work of the Ladies' Care Committee in the provision of milk and eggs to expectant and nursing mothers has again been most appreciated.

The following tables shew the amount of work done in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare Work during the year.

Total Attendances made during the year	...	...	5299
1. By children under 1 year of age	...	...	3172
2. By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	2093
Average number of children attending per session	...	...	106

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR.

Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 month and under 3 mths	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
Bronchitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Broncho-Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia following Atelectasis of both Lungs	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Shock following successful reduction of acute Intussusception	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Congenital Malformations and Premature Birth	5	2	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Spina Bifida	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Infantile Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Mental Deficiency	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Exfoliative Dermatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory Obstruction	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Tonsillitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	6	5	1	—	12	2	3	1	2	20

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE WARDS.

DISEASE	South	St. Hilda	Station	Throston	Hart	Middleton	Other	Total
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	4
Broncho-Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations and Premature Birth	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	8
Infantile Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exfoliative Dermatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Tonsillitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia following Atelectasis of both Lungs	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Shock following successful reduction of acute Intussusception	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Spina Bifida	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Mental Deficiency	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Respiratory Obstruction	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Marasmus	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	2	—	2	11	4	1	—	20

Total number of children who made first attendances	...	529
1. Children under 1 year of age	...	322
2. Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	207

Number of Children who received Artificial
Sunlight Treatment

1. Children under 1 year of age	...	11
2. Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	39

Defects Found in Infants Attending Clinic.

Diseases			No. under 1 year	No. over 1 year
Conjunctivitis	...	...	—	1
Malnutrition	...	...	7	14
Otorrhœa	...	...	2	2
Rickets	...	...	—	7
Umbilical Hernia	...	...	6	2
Diarrhœa	...	...	2	5
Impetigo	...	...	3	—
Eczema	...	...	—	10
Scabies	...	...	1	2
Phimosis	...	...	11	—
Constipation	...	...	10	3
Enteritis	...	...	9	—
Bronchitis	..	...	2	4
Errors of Feeding	...	...	44	8
Carious Teeth	...	...	1	3
Debility	...	...	2	11
Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	—	6
Tongue	...	...	6	—
Thread Worms	...	...	—	4
Flat Feet	...	...	—	3
Fractured Clavicle	...	...	—	1
Injury of Foot	...	...	—	1
T.B. Knee	...	...	—	1
Cervical Adenitis	...	...	—	2
Knock Knee	..	...	—	1
Fibroma	...	...	—	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	1
Nil abnormal	...	...	1	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	9	7

53 pre-school children attended the School Clinic sessions, and were found to have the following defects :—

DEFECT	No. of Cases
Adenitis	2
Abrasions	5
Blepharitis	1
Burns and Scalds	4
Circumcision (Dressing wounds)	3
Conjunctivitis	2
Impetigo	17
Mumps	2
Septic Hand	2
Septic Rash	—
Septic Finger	1
Septic Umbilicus	2
Scabies	1
Otorrhœa	1
Furunculosis	—
Ringworm	2
Stye	—
Sprained Ankle	1
Wax in Ears	2
Threadworms	2
Rickets	—
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	3

Number of visits paid during the year by all Health Visitors :—

(a) To expectant mothers	First Visits	137
	Total Visits	153
(b) To children under 1 year	First Visits	380
	Total Visits	1593
(c) To children between 1 and 5 years	Total Visits	2631

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1938

**To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health
and Housing Committee.**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my report of the work carried out in the Sanitary Section of the Department during the year 1938.

As referred to in my last report, Housing still continues to take up a large proportion of time and militates against the efficient Sanitary Inspection of the district, particularly in view of the additional duties constantly being imposed on Sanitary Inspectors by new Acts of Parliament and which at present it is not proving possible to administer.

Steady progress has been made with the slum clearance programme and with the re-housing of tenants from condemned property at the West View Housing Estate. It is pleasing to note the progress that has been made by these tenants and in a few cases only has it proved necessary to take action in respect of the condition of the houses in their occupation.

The appointment of the temporary Sanitary Inspector was extended for a further period and terminated when he secured another appointment.

Nothing transpired during the year to call for special comment.

Details of work carried out will be found in the following pages with the exception of Housing and Meat Inspection which are on pages 15 to 19.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA

Dwelling houses.

	Inspections	Re-inspections
Re notifiable diseases	... 37	6
Re other diseases	... 1	—
Verminous	... 20	10
Dirty	... 14	9
Other conditions	... 271	779
Overcrowded	... 15	6
Houses let in lodgings	... 1	1
Drains—		
Grenade tested	... 2	—
Inspected	... 12	6
Re fowls or animals kept	... 5	7
Re water supply	... 4	5
Tents, vans and sheds	... 1	2
Rat infested premises	... 14	29
Sewers, streets, gullies, etc.	... 2	—
Interviews with owners	... 66	—
Interviews with builders	... 26	—
Miscellaneous visits	... 22	15
Removal enquiries, Housing	... 30	1
Supervision of removals, Housing	... 318	—

Other Premises.

Common lodging houses	... 7	2
Stables, re accumulations, etc.	... 4	6
Offensive trades	... 64	9
Schools	... 2	—
Factories with mechanical power	... 19	2
Factories without mechanical power	... 40	6
Restaurants, etc.	... 10	—
Bakehouses	... 15	3
Marine stores	... 4	—
Dairies	... 20	4

Notices.

Informal notices served during 1938	... 186
Informal notices complied with during 1938	.. 143
Second notices sent	... 89
Statutory notices served during 1938	... 29
Statutory notices complied with during 1938	... 12
Nuisances complied with without service of notice	7
Letters of warning sent	... 10

Works done to abate nuisances—houses.

	By Council	By Owner	Without notice
Floors relaid or repaired	—	22	1
Fireplaces, ranges, etc., repaired	—	37	1
Roofs repaired	—	63	1
New doors and fittings provided	—	37	—
Water spouts fixed or repaired	—	49	1
Repairs to wallplaster	—	47	1
Repairs to ceilings	—	12	—
Improved ventilation	—	6	—
Accumulation of refuse	—	2	1
New ashbins	—	1	—
Washing accommodation provided	—	4	—
Washing accommodation repaired	—	19	—
Yard paving repaired	—	11	1
Yard paving relaid	—	7	—
Staircases repaired	—	16	—
Pantries provided	—	1	—
Outbuildings re-constructed	—	1	—
Pumps repaired or renewed	—	7	1
Water service repaired	—	3	—

Verminous houses.

No. of premises cleansed or limewashed	—	2	—
Verminous houses cleansed	19	—	—
Lots of bedding and/or furniture destroyed	62	—	—

Water closets

Cleansed	—	3	—
Repaired	—	24	1
Re-constructed	—	1	—
Wash down W.C.'s provided in lieu of old types	—	9	—
Vent shafts repaired	—	1	—
Cisterns repaired or renewed	—	15	1

Drains

Cleansed or repaired	—	22	3
New sinks fitted	—	9	—
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	—	8	—
Additional gullies fitted	—	2	1
Urinals improved	—	1	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Routine inspections were made during the year of Factories and Workshops within the district and generally they were found to be in a satisfactory condition ; no formal action was required by this department. No list of outworkers was received during the year.

Inspection for purposes of provision as to health.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

PREMISES (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories with mechanical power	49	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	40	—	—
*Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
*Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories			
Total	89	—	—

Defects found

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1)	4	4	..	..
Overcrowding (S. 2)	1	1	..	..
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) .. ..	.	..	..	..
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4) .. ..	..	..	..	..
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ..	1	1	..	..
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) { Insufficient .. ..	..	..	..	..
{ Unsuitable or defective ..	5	5	..	..
{ Not separate for sexes ..	..	..	..	..
Other Offences .. ..	..	..	..	..
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)				
Total ..	11	11	..	..

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There are no camping sites in the Borough, licensed or otherwise.

Complaints were received during the year as to a caravan and tent encampment on the coast. The encampment was discontinued on informal action being taken.

There are a number of caravans and sheds in the district, some of which are occupied at week ends only, and some of which are used as dwellings all the year round, and to the majority of which there is no proper water supply or sanitary accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The number of premises and trades carried on there are as below :—

Fish Meal Factory	1
Fish Curers	7
Rag and Bone Dealers	2
Fish Friers	14

One fried fish shop included in a clearance area became vacant during the year. The premises, generally, were kept in a clean condition though informal action had to be taken in respect of certain nuisances as below :—

Accummulation of refuse	4
Limewash premises	3
Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences	4

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

		1937	1938
No. of keepers	... ..	2	2
No. of houses	... ..	2	2
No. of rooms used for sleeping	... ..	5	5
No. of lodgers accommodated nightly	... ..	60	60

The registration of one common lodging house was renewed subject to the condition that part of the building should not be used owing to there being no proper means of escape in case of fire.

Informal action only, had to be taken in one instance to remedy certain defects.

MEATS AND OTHER FOODS.

The number of slaughterhouses in the area is as follows :

		1937	1938
Registered	... ..	4	4
Licensed	... ..	3	3

Many of the slaughterhouses are situated in close proximity to dwellinghouses and other premises and are in other respects unsatisfactory. The slaughterhouses have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The total number of meat and food inspections carried out during the year was 275 and 643 carcasses were examined.

The total weight of foodstuffs condemned during the year was 5 tons 3 cwt.

No seizure of unsound foodstuff was necessary, all foodstuffs being voluntarily surrendered.

One butcher was warned about the removal of diseased meat from a slaughterhouse prior to inspection.

For the tabulated statement of carcasses inspected and condemned see page 19 of the report.

Foodstuffs—other than meat—surrendered.

Herrings, imported	...	4 tons 6 cwt. 5 st.
Prawns imported	...	2 st.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The above act, which requires that animals shall be slaughtered by a mechanically operated instrument, was applied to include sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs.

No Licences were renewed and no new licences were granted during the year.

MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

Cowsheds.

No. of cowsheds on register	...	5
No. of registered keepers	...	5

The premises generally, were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition. No graded milks were produced within the district.

No premises were registered during the year.

Wholesale Traders and Purveyors of Milk.

No. of retail purveyors of milk within the town	11*
No. of wholesale traders selling milk within the town	7

*Does not include those registered for the sale of bottled milk only.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were granted during 1938 under the above order :

Dealers licence for Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
Supplementary Licence for Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Supplementary Licence for Pasteurised Milk	2

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

The requirements of the above order have been complied with by retailers and producers and no action under the above order was found to be necessary.

Bacteriological Examination.

Six samples of ungraded milks were submitted for bacteriological examination. All samples were negative for the presence of Tubercule Bacilli. Five of the samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test but four gave a positive reaction for B. Coli ; two being positive in two of three tubes and two positive in three of the three tubes. One sample satisfied the B. Coli Test but not the Methylene Blue. One sample was satisfactory to all tests.

In all cases of an adverse report the matter was taken up with the person concerned.

Water Supply.

A sample of water taken from a well on dairy premises on the outskirts of the town, there being no town water laid on, was submitted for analysis and proved to be contaminated by sewage.

A piped supply from the town service was laid on.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During 1938, 75 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis and in 2 instances an adverse report was received giving a percentage of adulteration of 2.66%.

Details of samples procured and administrative action taken on adverse samples are given below.

Samples Procured.

Article Sampled	In- formal	Formal	Not Genuine	Genuine	Total
Milk	—	17	1	16	17
Milk, tinned	2	—	—	2	2
Butter	1	—	—	1	1
Margarine	1	—	—	1	1
Coffee, mixture	2	—	—	2	2
Tea	2	—	—	2	2
Sugar	2	—	—	2	2
Jam	4	—	—	4	4
Sausage	6	—	—	6	6
Meat Paste	3	—	—	3	3
Brawn	1	—	—	1	1
Fish Paste	2	—	—	2	2
Vinegar	—	5	1	4	5
Peas, tinned	3	—	—	3	3
White Pepper	2	—	—	2	2
Ground Ginger	2	—	—	2	2
Baking Powder	1	—	—	1	1
Relish	1	—	—	1	1
Tapioca Flakes	1	—	—	1	1
Dessicated Coconut	1	—	—	1	1
Soup Powder	1	—	—	1	1
Tomato Paste	1	—	—	1	1
Olive Oil	2	—	—	2	2
Camphorated Oil	2	—	—	2	2
Chocolate sweets	5	—	—	5	5
Sweets	4	—	—	4	4
Whisky	1	—	—	1	1
Totals	53	22	2	73	75

Samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine.

Sample No.	Article	Adulteration	Extent	Action taken
24 Informal	Vinegar	Deficient in acetic acid	5%	Warned. Incorrectly made up from essence. Further sample genuine
47 Formal	Milk	Deficient in milk fat	3%	Warned. Further samples proved genuine

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

Premises have been inspected and information given as required during the year. No action has been necessary for contraventions of the act.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No formal action has been taken under this act during the year, the attention of shopkeepers being drawn to any infringements.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The County Council is the executive authority under the above act. No special action, such as Rat Week, was taken during the year. Complaints as to rats were investigated and in certain cases appropriate action was taken by this department, in other instances the complaints were passed on to the County Rat Officer.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

No causes for complaint was found in the premises licensed by the Justices.

Your obedient servant,

G. A. WARD,

Sanitary Inspector.

